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purpose of studying Anglo-Saxon and Germanic Philology. In 1889 he received the degree of Ph. D., *magna cum laude*, from Leipzig. After taking his degree, he spent one semester in further study at Berlin. For several months he was at the École des Chartes in Paris, studying paleography and the Romance languages, and engaged in researches at the Bibliothèque Nationale on the French manuscript sources of the Romance of Merlin, for the Early English Text Society. In 1890 he went to London and studied in the British Museum and the Library of the Inner Temple. Here he prepared for publication by the Early English Text Society a double text of Robert of Brunne's Chronicle, using in preparation the two existing manuscripts, one of which has never been published. In addition to several articles in the *Academy* (Boston), he has published his university thesis, entitled, "The Versification of Pope in its Relations to the Seventeenth Century," (Leipzig, 1889).

OBITUARY.

JOHN G. R. McELROY.

Professor JOHN G. R. McELROY, of the University of Pennsylvania, died on November 26, after a severe illness of several months. Professor McELROY was born in Philadelphia in 1842, and was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with high honors in 1862. Subsequently he went to Chicago, where he became an instructor in the High School of that city. In 1867 he was called to the University of Pennsylvania as Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and History; he was transferred to the Adjunct Professorship of Greek in 1869, and in 1879 was elected Professor of Rhetoric and the English Language.

The most important published work of Professor McELROY is a text-book, 'The Structure of English Prose,' which has been deservedly popular, being used at Cornell University, the University of Pennsylvania, the High Schools of the Dominion of Canada, and elsewhere. His 'Essentials of English Etymology' has also met with considerable favor. Prof. McELROY was a frequent contributor to *Shaksperiana*, the *MOD. LANG. NOTES*, the *Philadelphia American*, the *Academy* (Boston), and other journals; his articles are invariably characterized by careful scholarship, originality of thought, and an admirable style. His more recent studies have been largely in Early and Middle English, and only last summer he was invited by Dr. FURNIVALL to undertake the "Variorum" Glossary of CHAUCER, which has so long been meditated by scholars, and for which Prof. McELROY had been gathering material for several years.

Prof. McELROY's professional life has been

completely identified with the University of Pennsylvania, and his voice has ever been raised in behalf of her progress. The institution owes much to his active, conscientious and fearless performance of duty, and rarely has a teacher combined the qualities of a scholar and a gentleman in the exercise of so wholesome an influence upon the students under his care.

FELIX E. SCHELLING.

ALEXANDRE CHATRIAN.

ALEXANDRE CHATRIAN, whose death occurred in September last, was the younger of the literary partners who always signed themselves ERCKMANN-CHATRIAN. Born at Soldatenthal in Alsace in 1826, he followed in Belgium his family trade, that of a glass-worker. A dispute with a fellow-workman resulting in the injury of the latter, CHATRIAN left his task, went to Phalsbourg, and took the place of monitor in a local school, with the intention of devoting himself to literature. It was during his leisure hours that he met at the tavern ERCKMANN, son of a book-seller of Phalsbourg. Joining their forces they went to Paris, and tried for some time the vein of fantastic stories in the style of HOFFMAN and POE. Success was slow in coming, and it was not until 1859 that 'l'illustre docteur Mathéus' fixed on them public attention. Meanwhile CHATRIAN had entered the service of the Eastern railway and ERCKMANN had returned to Alsace. In 1862 they hit upon their peculiar inspiration, that of depicting Alsatian life, of which "le Fou Yégo" was the first product. This was followed by the well-known stories of the Revolution and the First Empire, "Madame Thérèse," "Waterloo," "le Blocus" and others, which did much to impair the military enthusiasm of the French. After the Franco-Prussian war their attitude changed somewhat, as is seen in "l'Ami Fritz" and "Les Rantzán." Their reputation was further heightened by their dramatic successes in "le Juif polonais" and "l'Ami Fritz," but to the last they retained their aversion to publicity and their simplicity of mind. In the production of these novels, stories and plays, it is probable that the labor of composition fell more heavily on ERCKMANN, who, when the plan of the work had been decided upon, would write out in his retreat the volume and submit it to the inspection of CHATRIAN at Paris. Their close union and complete accord had become proverbial in France, when last year witnessed their disagreement in regard to a work, which gave rise to a mutual recrimination in public. These differences, however, were adjusted before the death of CHATRIAN, and remain the only painful episode of their long friendship.

F. M. WARREN.